

REMARKS

The only amendments change the dependencies of claims 9 and 10. Accordingly, the changes do not require any more than a cursory review by the examiner and are properly entered after final rejection.

Claims 1-14, 16, and 36-46 remain in the application; claims 1, 14 and 36 are independent.

Regarding a housekeeping matter being raised for the second time, the Amendment dated October 8, 2009, included a Submission of Drawing Change with a replacement sheet seven of the drawings that included a minor change in Fig. 8. The Amendment of December 2, 2009, requested that the next office action in the present application indicate that replacement sheet seven has been entered into the application. The office action dated March 3, 2010, again failed to indicate approval of the requested drawing change.

The sole rejection is of all of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as reciting subject matter that would have been obvious from U.S. Patent 4,338,937 to Lerman in view of newly cited U.S. Patent 7,546,855 to Rodewald et al.

Without conceding that the subject matter of the applicants' claims would in fact have been obvious from Lerman and Rodewald, the rejection must be withdrawn because Rodewald's effective filing date is July 27, 2004, after the filing dates of the applicant's provisional applications no. 60/519,116, filed November 12, 2003, and no. 60/520,406, filed November 14, 2003. In other words, Rodewald is not prior art to the applicant's claims.

Accordingly, claims 1-14, 16, and 36-46 are patentable and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Any fee associated with this paper should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0409.

If the examiner has any questions regarding this application, he is requested to telephone the applicant's below attorney. All correspondence should be sent to the attorney named below at the address shown.

Respectfully submitted,



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